PASADENA
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ALLIANCE

PAA 22nd Biennial Art Auction a galloping success!

The Pasadena Art Alliance, with a gathering of friends, captivating contemporary art, and ebullient electronic music, hosted its 22nd Biennial Art Auction at Santa Anita Park on Saturday, April 13th. Attendees braved the pouring rain and were met with welcoming smiles and hellos from friends. With more than 350 art aficionados in attendance, guests had the opportunity to bid on over 60 donated artworks, contributed by local and LA area artists to support the work of the PAA. Co-chair Susan Reynolds acknowledged the superior installation skills provided by the Pasadena Art Center Exhibitions Crew, who hung the works.

The art pieces, in a wide variety of media and techniques, were separated into two sections. Notorious and charming racetrack bugler Jay Cohen signaled the close of bidding for each section and entertained guests in between with his humorous card tricks and sleight of hand.

Artworks were collected and curated by the PAA Artist Committee, which for two decades has kept the beat on established and up-and-coming contemporary artists throughout Southern California, cultivating long-held and developing newer relationships with area artists. Members drove around the LA area, meeting artists and picking up works. Everything was carefully catalogued, framed where necessary, and stored at member's homes. Some of the artists were former recipients of PAA Grants and were pleased to give back to the PAA. All artists were invited to attend the evening as guests.

Co-chairs: Susan Reynolds, Gwen Robertson, and Stephanie Fox, worked together for the last year to make sure every detail was in place. Groups of members planned and executed lovely and colorful thematic table arrangements that gave the space a warm, friendly look.

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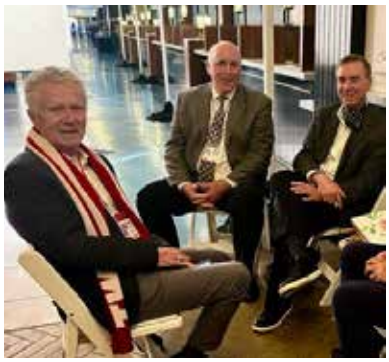
Culinary expert and PAA member Alexandra Poer created a signature cocktail, “The Lucky Baldwin.” The Santa Anita chefs prepared the delicious ‘Huntington Buffet’ for guests, and Marta Z, a non-classical electric violinist, provided a unique musical experience. She bowed and flowed her way beautifully through the crowd and the 16 art displays, adding a magical element to the evening.

“Santa Anita Park proved a winning venue. The event staff there is amazing, the attention to detail is stunning, and the views day and night were all superb. It provided the warmest atmosphere despite the rain,” said Co-chair Stephanie Fox. Final numbers are yet to come, but the event is anticipated to have earned $250,000 for the PAA team to use to respond to Grant Applications for the coming year.



I don’t believe in art,
I believe in *artists.*
Marcel Duchamp

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A Champion among us – Dorothy Matthiessen

You would never, ever know that this Pasadena interior designer was ranked Number One in the world in her age group (75 and over) by the International Tennis Federation for 2020,

— That the United States Tennis Association ranked her No. 1 in both singles and doubles.

— That she has won 131 national singles and doubles titles.

— That seven times–four in singles and three in doubles–she has won all the national titles in one year, called by the USTA a "Golden Slam."

— That she has won eight ITF World Championships and that 2010 marked her 18th selection to an International Tennis Federation Cup team.

A round of applause for our champion, Dorothy Matthiessen—better watchout for her on the pickleball courts!

–Larry Wilson, Pasadena Star News

Terri Miller

Terri Miller's career was a real laugh. *Really!* She was working at the Comedy and Magic Club in Hermosa Beach which led to her being a casting director for several comedy specials on TV featuring Jerry Seinfeld, Robin Williams, Julia Louis Dreyfuss, Gilda Radner and others. She credits this time with helping her learn to navigate creative and fragile personalities deftly while completing projects on time and on budget. (Perfect training for assisting with a PAA benefit, no?)

Three children and many benefits for area schools later, Terri started a small residential real estate business with a partner.

As Terri says: "While I may not love my what is happening to my neck, I enjoy being this age."

With her children now mostly grown, she has rekindled her personal artistic endeavors exploring fabric based projects (she is a tremendous seamstress!) and she is working with a partner on a writing project. With a keen interest in photography, she has an eclectic collection in her contemporary home in the San Rafael Hills. She enjoys learning about artists of all kinds, artistic visions, and exploring the many galleries and museums of Los Angeles.

Terri spent hours delving into the PAA Archives in order to produce the wonderful video of PAA benefits that was shown on the TV monitors at the Santa Anita Park Art Auction. Terri also helped on various other committees, always with a smile and her quiet efficiency. She has proved a true asset for the PAA!

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Putting Our Best Foot Forward - *A Message from Annaly*

Are you aware that the PAA is approaching our 70th birthday in 2025? Several Board members thought that it would be helpful to have a general "check in" and review current and future directions for our beloved organization. The desire was that we "put our best foot forward" (BFF) as we move into the next decade of PAA activities.

The purpose of Best Foot Forward is:

- To discuss all aspects of PAA membership life, and
- To look at ways of more efficiently achieving our mission, while keeping in mind the needs of our membership.

As was announced at our February General Meeting, the BFF participating members are Ann Barrett, Annaly Bennett, Annie Brose, Mia Dean, Kirsten Molz, Patsy Pinney, Carla Walecka, and Patty Zuber—with Lauren Frankel as our discussion facilitator. The BFF meetings are conducted once a month via Zoom, and we have had three meetings to date.

The categories we are examining are:

- Programs
- Fund-raising
- Communications
- Finance
- Membership
- Organizational Structure

The group intends to have recommendations to present at this fall's PAA Board Retreat.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please reach out to Annaly Bennett at ***annalyJB@gmail.com***, or to Lauren Frankel at ***lmfrankel7948@aol.com.***

Welcome to our New Members for 2024–2025!

The new member reception was held on April 24, 2024. More info about these new pals will be forthcoming, but just to get your interest piqued:

Featured from left to right: Sabra Clark White, Hally Prater, Natasha Unger, and Mollie White Moody.

Sabra Clark White is the daughter of past president Sabra Clark, and Mollie White Moody is Sabra's granddaughter. Sabra and Hally are former members now being reinstated.

Natasha and Mollie are brand new members, along with Laura Babcock, who could not attend.

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Coming Exhibitions From PAA Grantees

April

April–June 2024	Coaxial Arts	Artist Residencies: Persia Beheshti and Nat Decker
April 11–August 17, 2024	ArtCenter College	Undergraduate visual art scholarships and *Kwame Brathwaite* Exhibition

May

May–October 2024	Mt. Wilson	*Of Sea and Sky:* Video by Rebeca Mèndez, *Works on Paper* by Stephen Nowlin
May 26, 2024–Jan 2025	LACMA	Simone Leigh
May–July 2024	JOAN	Sofía Córdova: *The Wreck and Not the Story of the Wreck*

Coming Soon!

Look for the ***Artifacts Special Edition: La Biennale Di Venezia***.
This coveted newsletter will prove to be jam-packed with sights of the Biennale, stories from the biggest event of the year, and revealing tales of the goings-on of fellow PAA members!